

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) Connecting device between a contact element and strands of wire, the strands of wire being realized in a material with a dilation coefficient different from a dilation coefficient of the contact element, comprising an intermediate tube cooperating respectively with the contact element and the strands, this tube having a rigidity similar to that of the contact element, and having a dilation coefficient similar to that of the strands.
2. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1 wherein a first end of the intermediate tube is crimped around the strands of the wire, and around a shaft of this wire.
3. (previously presented) Device according to claim 2 wherein the contact element is fixed in force at a second end of the tube.
4. (previously presented) Device according to claim 3 wherein the contact element is comprised of copper.
5. (previously presented) Device according to claim 4 wherein the strands are comprised of aluminum.
6. (previously presented) Device according to claim 5 wherein the tube is comprised of aluminum.
7. (previously presented) Device according to claim 6 wherein the intermediate tube is internally covered with a ductile and conductive material, for example gold, silver or tin.

8. (new) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:
a tubular housing having a first opening at one end that communicates with a conduit therein that has a first width or diameter for receiving one end of the stranded wire therein and having a necked down portion that has a second width or diameter that is narrower than the first width or diameter for receiving a plurality of wire strands of the stranded wire therein, and having a second opening at its other end that communicates with the necked down portion of the conduit with the necked down portion of the conduit providing a friction fit with the contact when the contact is received in the necked down portion of the conduit, wherein an interior surface of the tubular housing defines the conduit and is lined with a ductile and electrically conductive material, and wherein the tubular housing is made of a material having a heat expansion coefficient that is substantially the same as that of the material of the plurality of wire strands of the stranded wire.
9. (new) The connector of claim 8 wherein the tubular housing is crimped against the stranded wire when the stranded wire is disposed in the conduit in the tubular housing.
10. (new) The connector of claim 8 wherein the tubular housing is comprised of aluminum and the plurality of wire strands of the stranded wire are comprised of aluminum.
11. (new) The connector of claim 8 wherein a force fit is provided between the contact and the tubular housing of the connector.
12. (new) The connector of claim 11 wherein the contact is of one-piece and unitary construction.
13. (new) The connector of claim 12 wherein the contact is comprised of copper.

14. (new) The connector of claim 8 wherein the ductile and electrically conductive lining is comprised of one of gold, silver or tin.

15. (new) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:

a tubular housing having an opening at one end that communicates with a conduit therein that has a first width or diameter for receiving one end of the stranded wire therein and having a necked down portion that has a second width or diameter that is narrower than the first width or diameter for receiving a plurality of wire strands of the stranded wire therein, and having an opening at its other end that communicates with the necked down portion of the conduit, wherein the necked down portion of the conduit provides a force fit with the contact when the contact is received in the necked down portion of the conduit,

an electrically conductive liner that is disposed on an interior surface of the tubular housing that defines the conduit;

wherein the tubular housing is made of a material having a heat expansion coefficient that is substantially the same as the heat expansion coefficient of the material of the plurality of wire strands of the stranded wire; and

wherein a portion of the tubular housing is crimped against the stranded wire to retain the stranded wire in the conduit of the tubular housing.

16. (new) The connector of claim 15 wherein the electrically conductive liner is comprised of one of gold, silver or tin.

17. (new) The connector of claim 15 wherein the contact is of one-piece and unitary construction and made of copper.

18. (new) A connector for connecting a stranded aluminum wire to a copper contact comprising:

an aluminum tubular housing having a pair of openings leading to an interior surface that defines a generally cylindrical conduit therein that has a first section with a first diameter and a second section with a second diameter that is different than the first diameter;

a ductile and electrically conductive material lining the interior surface of the aluminum tubular housing that defines the conduit;

wherein the stranded aluminum wire is disposed in one of the conduit sections and extends through one of the conduit openings and has a plurality of aluminum wire strands disposed in the other one of the conduit sections;

wherein part of the aluminum tubular housing is crimped against the stranded aluminum wire; and

wherein the copper contact is disposed in the other one of the conduit sections and extends through the other one of the conduit openings; and

wherein a force fit is provided between the aluminum tubular housing and the copper contact.

19. (new) The connector of claim 18 wherein the ductile and electrically conductive material is comprised of one of gold, silver or tin.

20. (new) The connector of claim 18 wherein the conduit is straight.